

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4526. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Class E Airspace; Ankeny, IA; direct final rule; request for comments" ((RIN2120-AA66)(2001-0165)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4527. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Class E Airspace; Clinton, AR; direct final rule; confirmation of effective date" ((RIN2120-AA66)(2001-0170)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4528. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Realignment of Federal Airway V-358; TX" ((RIN2120-AA66)(2001-0163)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4529. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Class E Airspace; Pittsburgh, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66)(2001-0168)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4530. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Agusta SpA Model A109E Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64)(2001-0537)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4531. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Model 206L-4 Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64)(2001-0536)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4532. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Eurocopter France Model SA 365N1, SA 365N2 and SA 366G1 Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64)(2001-0535)) received on October 31, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN for the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Mark W. Everson, of Texas, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 1629. A bill to provide farmers with better prices and higher profits through the marketplace; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. CARNAHAN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BOND, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 1630. A bill to extend for 6 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1631. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to direct the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a study to determine the resources that are needed for development of an effective nationwide communications system for emergency response personnel; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 1632. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to extend the deadline for submission of State recommendations of local governments to receive assistance of predisaster hazard mitigation and to authorize the President to provide additional repair assistance to individuals and households; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 1633. A bill to amend the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to establish a program to provide assistance to States and nonprofit organizations to preserve suburban open space and contain suburban sprawl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 1634. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety of perishable products whose import is regulated by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 543

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON of Nebraska) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to provide for equal coverage of mental health benefits with respect to health insurance coverage unless comparable limitations are imposed on medical and surgical benefits.

S. 721

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 721, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Nurse Corps and recruitment and retention strategies to address the nursing shortage, and for other purposes.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 895, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for research related to developing vaccines against widespread diseases and ensure that such vaccines are affordable and widely distributed.

S. 952

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 952, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 990

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 990, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to improve the provisions relating to wildlife conservation and restoration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1009

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1009, a bill to require the provision of information to parents and adults concerning bacterial meningitis and the availability of a vaccination with respect to such diseases.

S. 1094

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1094, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research, information, and education with respect to blood cancer.

S. 1499

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1499, a bill to provide assistance to small business concerns adversely impacted by the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 1556

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1556, a bill to establish a program to name national and community service projects in honor of victims killed as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

S. 1600

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1600, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow medicare beneficiaries a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of outpatient prescription drugs.

S. 1627

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama

(Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1627, a bill to enhance the security of the international borders of the United States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 1629. A bill to provide farmers with better prices and higher profits through the marketplace; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce The Farm Income Recovery Act. Its objective is to produce better prices and higher profits through the marketplace. It thus addresses the principal failures of the current farm law, the so-called Freedom to Farm bill which was passed by the Congress in 1996.

Freedom to Farm has, unfortunately, contributed to disastrously low market prices for agricultural commodities. Congress has thus been forced to appropriate disastrously high taxpayer subsidies in order to save American farmers from bankruptcy.

Mr. President, Freedom to Farm was conceived with a laudable goal—to get the Federal Government out of agriculture. Farmers were free to plant whatever crops they chose, and commodities supports were then to be phased out during the life of the legislation. Unfortunately, U.S. domestic farm prices collapsed in the aftermath of Freedom to Farm.

In October 1996, just before the Freedom to Farm legislation began, the price of a bushel of soybeans in Minnesota, my home State, was \$6.84. In October of 2001, just last month, the price of that same bushel of soybeans was \$4.05. In October of 1996, a bushel of corn brought Minnesota farmers \$2.68. In October of 2001, it was only \$1.60. The price of a bushel of wheat fell during those same 5 years from \$4.27 to \$3.

In order to prop up farm income, Federal payments have soared during these 5 years. Last year, total Federal payments for all of agriculture totaled nearly \$30 billion—by far, a record high—which almost equaled total net farm income. In other words, without Federal subsidies, there would be no net profit in American agriculture. Clearly, we must find another strategy, and that is the enormous task confronting the Senate Agriculture Committee, on which I am proud to serve.

Our distinguished chairman, Senator HARKIN, and the previous chairman, now our ranking member, Senator LUGAR, have held many worthwhile hearings throughout this year. Just about every farm organization has testified. My colleague from Minnesota, Senator PAUL WELLSTONE, also a member of the Agriculture Committee, and I have held field hearings throughout Minnesota. Additionally, both of us have held many meetings with groups of farmers, producers, and processors throughout our State.

The product of all of the hearings, meetings, and discussions with Minnesota farmers is, for me, this Farm Income Recovery Act. As I said before, its objective is to help produce higher prices in the U.S. domestic commodity markets so that farmers can earn real profits, thus reducing or eliminating the need for Government subsidies. That is the best way to reduce the costs of farm programs—to reduce the need for them. And until we restore market prices to profitable levels, our choice will continue to be between either more subsidies or more bankruptcies.

My Farm Income Recovery Act has four major components. The first is higher loan rates: \$3.88 for wheat, \$2.40 for corn, \$5.36 for a bushel of soybeans, \$2.40 for sorghum, \$2.40 for barley, \$60.65 a hundredweight for cotton, and \$8.61 a hundredweight for rice.

Secondly, it targets these higher loan rates, limiting them to certain amounts of production. It does not prevent farmers from producing more and more, but it says that we are going to limit these nonrecourse market loans to certain levels of production, which are set forth in the legislation. If a farmer wants to get bigger, wants to produce more and more of these commodities, he or she is certainly entitled to do so, but then they are on their own. The amount of production above these levels is subject to recourse loans, which have to be repaid with interest to the Federal Government. This means if the producers who want to get larger and larger decide to do so, they are not then going to be dependent upon the taxpayers of America; they are going to be standing on their own.

Third, it establishes commodity reserves in order to help control the supply and, thus, help farmers decide at what prices they want to sell their commodities. It re-establishes a farmer-owned reserve program, which was one of the best features of previous farm legislation and which was one of the unfortunate casualties of the 1996 farm bill.

It establishes a humanitarian food reserve fund through the Federal Government, through which the Federal Government can hold food commodities in reserve for the kinds of humanitarian efforts we see underway today in Afghanistan.

It sets up a renewable energy reserve—which ties in nicely with another important feature of the farm bill which Senator HARKIN has championed over the years and in our discussions of the last few months, alternative and renewable fuels in our country—to really boost the Federal incentives and support for ethanol, soy diesel, another promising biofuel which I have introduced other legislation to promote.

As we encourage the use of these alternative and renewable fuels in our country, we are going to need to hold food commodities in reserve so we can assure consumers that there are going

to be sufficient resources. We may reach the day in this country where we have such demand for ethanol and for soy diesel, that we need to go into this Government-held energy reserve in order to generate the additional supplies necessary to meet that demand. Not only would that be good for our oil independence, it would be a great contribution to a cleaner environment. It would boost domestic prices for corn, soybeans, and for other commodities that can be used for either ethanol or soy diesel production in ways that would, again, stimulate our domestic markets and reduce the need for taxpayer subsidies.

Finally, the Farm Income Recovery Act establishes a voluntary program that, in periods of increased supply, will allow the Secretary of Agriculture to raise these loan rates for farmers who voluntarily set aside a certain percentage of their acreage for conservation; thus, in combination with our existing conservation programs, it will encourage better conservation practices by farmers, again, through positive marketplace incentives.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a summary of my legislation, as well as the actual legislation, be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1629

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

Section 102 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7202) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) **CONSIDERED PLANTED.**—The term ‘considered planted’ means—

(A) any acreage that producers on a farm were prevented from planting to a crop because of drought, flood, or other natural disaster, or other condition beyond the control of the producers on the farm; and

(B) such other acreage as the Secretary considers as fair and equitable”;

(1) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) **CONTRACT ACREAGE; LOAN ACREAGE.**—The terms ‘contract acreage’, and ‘loan acreage’ mean (at the option of eligible owners or producers on a farm)—

“(A) the total crop acreage bases established for all contract commodities and loan commodities under title V of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1461 et seq.) that would have been in effect for the 1996 crop (but for suspension under section 171 (b)(1)); or

“(B) the average number of acres planted and considered planted to all contract commodities and loan commodities, respectively, during the 1996 through 2001 crop years, excluding any crop year in which such commodities were not planted or considered planted, on the farm.”;

(2) by striking paragraph (9) and inserting the following:

“(9) **FARM PROGRAM PAYMENT YIELD.**—The term ‘farm program payment yield’ means the average yield per planted acre for a crop for a farm for the 1996 through 2001 crop years, excluding any crop year during which—